

ABSTRACT

A calling party calls a called party and leaves a message on a voice messaging system after receiving a busy status if the calling party is willing to pay to leave a message and if the calling party has given permission to send messages. The calling party is connected with the voice messaging system responsive to a trigger in the telephone system. The voice messaging system receives and stores the message for future retrieval by the called party. The called party can then dial the messaging system to play the message. However, the called party does not establish the voice messaging system for his associated number, rather the calling party provides permission to send the message. An indicator may be provided to the called party alerting the called party to the waiting message. The called party then dials the voice messaging system and retrieves the stored message. Prompts may be provided to the calling party for message options.